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AP Literature and Composition

December 14, 2009

Six-Word Memoir

Turns out he really was gay.

First things first: I have no problem whatsoever with people who are gay. That isn’t what this memoir is all about. At first, I wasn’t sure what approach to take towards this six-word memoir, but then I decided that candid, open, and honest would be best. I didn’t want to write about something generic in my life, like sports or self-esteem. Instead, I chose a slightly problematic memory that was still specifically belonged to me. I won’t tell the whole story, because maybe you’d rather not know. Overall though, this six-word memoir is about discovering that what you thought in the back of your mind about your brother, dad, best friend, or boyfriend turned out to be true after all. This is why I chose the words “turns out” and “really was.” I wanted to illustrate that I had an inkling of what was coming, but chose to disregard those thoughts as silly and impossible. I chose the word “gay” because that is what happened in my story, but maybe other people can relate to other more enormous, mostly unexpected changes in the people they love. These are six words that describe a significant event in my high school life, and while it may not be related to schoolwork, sports, or college, I know that this summation of my first real relationship is the most honest I can give.